

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Roger Dale Hiatt  
TITLE : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
EXTRACTING A SAMPLE FROM A STRIP OF  
MATERIAL  
SERIAL NO. : 09/944,725  
FILING DATE : August 31, 2001  
EXAMINER : Noland, T.  
GROUP ART UNIT : 2856  
CONFIRMATION NO. : 1704  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 24221-88-2

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

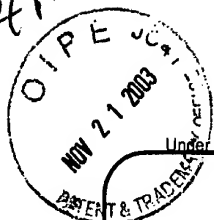
RECEIVED  
NOV 26 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**AMENDMENT A**  
**AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Examiner:

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 19, 2003, issued in connection with the above-referenced application. The Examiner set a shortened statutory period of 3 months to reply. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows:



2856

PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 08/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/944,725
	Filing Date	08/31/2001
	First Named Inventor	Hiatt Roger Dale
	Art Unit	2856
	Examiner Name	Noland, T.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	24221-88-2

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Return Receipt Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Response to Office Action Dated August 19, 2003	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

RECEIVED  
NOV 26 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	W. Scott Harders, Reg. No. 42,629 Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff, LLP
Signature	
Date	November 19, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.	
Typed or printed name	Christina R. Correll
Signature	
Date	November 19, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. B x 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.